

Mr. DADDARIO. You see no problem through the committee being actually a coordinating force rather than one of direction?

Dr. CAIN. I don't.

Mr. DADDARIO. Dr. Bennett.

Dr. BENNETT. I think that the fact that the review mechanisms for the extramural projects will consist of those presently in existence is a strong point to defend this as a program of quality. The mechanisms that are presently utilized in the agencies to pass judgment on the scientific merits of grants and contracts will be used in connection with this program. The point should be made, in terms of guaranteeing that the quality of the work done under this program, its scientific quality, that it will have to pass the same judgment that presently exists in the various agencies.

Mr. DADDARIO. That takes into consideration Dr. Cain's concern about getting support for scientists outside of Government?

Dr. BENNETT. Yes.

Mr. DADDARIO. Then being able to work such support through already established criteria, already developed within these agencies for which they would have the basic responsibility.

Dr. BENNETT. The judgment on the scientific merit of the suggested projects, yes.

Dr. CAIN. I believe what we are loosely calling the granting agencies, the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health and to some extent several others are in the habit of talking to one another about giving projects and sort of dividing up into pieces so that you get a joint funding. Many of these things that IBP wants to do are disciplinary but yet under human adaptability.

The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare may very well want to carry part of it. At the same time they may not want to carry ecological studies of the environment in which the people who are doing the studies may live. There is an experience in putting these things together. I am not worried about the capacity of the existing organization to function if they have the money.

Mr. DADDARIO. What do we need the committee for then, Dr. Cain?

Dr. CAIN. Well, let me say this, that this concept was not dreamed up by any Federal agency. This was dreamed up by an independent scientist.

Mr. DADDARIO. I understand that.

There is no question in my mind that the agencies can work together. This committee has had experience with them. We have seen some important improvements over the course of time but obviously what you are trying to do is to place emphasis on a very important need, both nationally and internationally. I wonder if it is sufficient and if you have the force and drive to accomplish these objectives if, in fact, all you are doing is coordinating what is a presently existing capability.

Dr. KETCHUM. I would like to comment on the need for a national committee. Scientists are unique people and the best scientists don't submit to being told what to do. But on the other hand they have a tendency to work in isolation and sometimes to see a rather narrow part of the program. Something like the National Committee on the International Biological Program forces a few scientists at least to